Research Article



Graceful Labeling of Prime Index Graph of Group $\mathbb{Z}_{p} \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^{n}}$

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Abstract: The prime index graph $\pi(G)$ of a finite group G is a special type of undirected simple graph whose vertex set is set of subgroups of G, in which two distinct vertices are adjacent if one has prime index in the other. Let p and q be distinct primes. In this paper, we establish that prime index graph of a finite cyclic p-group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} , a finite abelian group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ and a finite abelian p-group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$ always have graceful labeling without any condition on n using the concept of path graph or p-layer ladder graph of size n + 1.

Keywords: ladder graph, path graph, prime index graph, graceful graph and graceful labeling

MSC: 05C25, 05C78, 05C50

1. Introduction

Let *G* be a finite group. The notion of prime index graph $\pi(G)$ of a group *G* was introduced by Akbari et.al [1]. The prime index graph $\pi(G)$ of a group *G* is defined as a graph with the set of all subgroups of *G* as its vertex set and there is an edge between two distinct vertices if index of one vertex is prime in other vertex. They proved that for every group *G*, $\pi(G)$ is bipartite and girth of $\pi(G)$ is contained in the set $\{4, \infty\}$. Graph $\pi(G)$ is connected in case *G* is finite solvable group. Further, Ahanjideh and Iranmanesh [2] extended works of Akbari et.al [1] as graph $\pi(G)$ connected of finite simple group *G* if and only if *G* is isomorphic to A_5 , $PSL_2(11)$, $PSL_3(3)$ or $PSL_2(2^{2n})$ where $n \leq 4$. In recent years, many researchers have studied various properties of graphs based on algebraic structure mainly finite groups and showed their utility in characterising finite groups. For example, Singh [3] studied Laplacian spectra of power graph and Sehgal et. al [4] gave a general formula for the degree of a vertex in the power graph of a finite abelian group.

A function f is called graceful labeling of a graph $\pi(G)$ if $f: V(\pi(G)) \to \{0, 1, 2, ..., |E(\pi(G))|\}$ is injective and the induced function $f^*: E(\pi(G)) \to \{1, 2, ..., |E(\pi(G))|\}$ defined as $f^*(e = uv) = |f(u) - f(v)|$ is bijective. A graph is called graceful graph if it admits a graceful labeling. The concept of graceful labeling was introduced by Rosa [5]. Golomb [6] named such labeling as graceful labeling, which was called earlier as β - valuation. In [7], Bu and Cao have discussed gracefulness of complete bipartite graph and its union with path. In [8], Acharya and Gill have investigated graceful labeling for the grid graph $P_n \times P_m$. Sehgal et. al [9], established that power graph of group $Z_2^{k-1} \times Z_4$ has graceful

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labeling. For a dynamic survey on graph labeling, we refer to Gallian [10]. See [11-14] for more details on graph based on finite groups.

In this paper, we identify a new class of graceful graphs, i.e., prime index graph of a finite cyclic *p*-group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} , a finite abelian group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ and a finite abelian *p*-group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$ always have graceful labeling without any condition on *n* using the concept of path graph or *p*-layer ladder graph of size n + 1.

2. Structure of prime index graph of finite cyclic *p*-group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}

We know that group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} = \{x^i \mid x^{p^n} = e, i = 0, 1, ..., p^n - 1\}$ is a cyclic group of order p^n . From [15], list of subgroups of group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} is given below.

 $H_i = \langle x^{p^{n-i}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^i}, \text{ if } i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n.$

Hence, we get the list of n + 1 subgroups.

On the basis of above list, we state following theorem which is very useful for structure of prime index graph of group \mathbb{Z}_{n^n} .

Theorem 1. Let \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} be a group whose subgroups list as H_i where i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n. Then, index of H_i where i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n - 1 in H_j where j = 0, 1, 2, ..., n is prime if and only if j = i + 1.

Proof. Here, $|H_i| = p^i$ where i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n - 1, then H_i has prime index in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^{i+1}$ and $H_i \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^{i+1}$ and $H_i \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = i + 1.

On the basis of above theorem, prime index graph of group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} is given below.



Figure 1. Prime index graph of group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}

This graph is known as path graph of size n + 1 which is denoted by P_{n+1} with two vertices H_0 , H_n having degree one and remaining vertices are of degree two. So, total number of edges is n.

3. Structure of prime index graph of finite cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}_{n^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$

We know that group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q = \{x^i y^i \mid x^{p^n} = y^q = e, xy = yx, i = 0, 1, ..., p^n - 1, j = 0, 1, 2, ..., q - 1\}$ is a cyclic group of order $p^n q$. From [15], list of subgroups of group $\mathbb{Z}_{q^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ is given below.

(i)
$$H_i = \langle x^{p^{n-\frac{i-2}{2}}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^{\frac{i-1}{2}}}$$
, if $i = 1, 3, 5, ..., 2n+1$.

(ii)
$$H_i = \langle x^p \quad y \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^{\frac{1}{2}}} \mathbb{Z}_q$$
, if $i = 2, 4, 6, ..., 2n+2$

Hence, we get the list of (2n + 2) subgroups.

On the basis of above list, we state following theorem which is very useful for structure of prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$.

Theorem 2. Let $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ be a group whose subgroups list as H_i where i = 1, 2, ..., 2n + 2, then we have

- (1) Subgroup H_i where i = 1, 3, 5, ..., 2n 1 in H_j where j = 1, 2, ..., 2n + 2 has index prime if and only if j = i + 1, i + 2.
- (2) Subgroup H_{2n+1} in H_j where j = 1, 2, ..., 2n + 2 has index prime if and only if j = 2n + 2.
- (3) Subgroup H_i where i = 2, 4, 6, ..., 2n in H_j where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., 2n + 2 has index prime if and only if j = i + 2. *Proof.*
- (1) Here, $|H_i| = p^{\frac{j-1}{2}}$ where i = 1, 3, 5, ..., 2n 1, then H_i has prime index in H_j if and only if $|H_j| = p^{\frac{j-1}{2}}q$ or $p^{\frac{j+1}{2}}$ and $H_i \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^{\frac{j-1}{2}}q$ or $p^{\frac{j+1}{2}}$ and $H_i \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = i + 1, i + 2.

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- (2) Here, $|H_{2n+1}| = p^n$, then H_{2n+1} has prime index in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^n q$ and $H_{2n+1} \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^n q$ and $H_{2n+1} \subset H_i$. is only possible if and only if j = 2n + 2.
- (3) Here, $|H_i| = p^{\frac{i}{2}}$ where i = 2, 4, 6, ..., 2n, then H_i has prime index in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^{\frac{i}{2}}q$ and $H_i \subset H_j$. So, $|H_i| = p^{\frac{1}{2}}q$ and $H_i \subset H_i$ is only possible if and only if j = i + 2.

On the basis of above *theorem*, prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ is given below.



Figure 2. Prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$

This graph is known as ladder graph of size n + 1 which is denoted by $L_{n+1,1}$ with four vertices $H_1, H_2, H_{2n+1}, H_{2n+2}$ having degree two and remaining vertices have degree three. So, total number of edges is (3n + 1).

4. Structure of prime index graph of finite abelian *p*-group $\mathbb{Z}_{p} \times \mathbb{Z}_{p}$

We know that group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} = \{x^i y^j \mid x^p = y^{p^n} = e, xy = yx, i = 0, 1, ..., p - 1, j = 0, 1, 2, ..., p^n - 1\}$ is an abelian group of order p^{n+1} . From [11, 16, 17], list of subgroups of group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$ is given below.

(i) $H_1 = \langle e \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_1$.

(ii) $H_{j+1} = \langle xy^{jp^{n-1}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$ where j = 1, 2, ..., p. (iii) $H_{p+2} = \langle y^{p^{n-1}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$. (iv) $H_{kp+2+k} = \langle x, y^{p^{n-k}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^k}$ where k = 1, 2, ..., n. (v) $H_{j+(k-1)p+1+k} = \langle x^j y^{p^{n-k}} \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^k}$ with j = 1, 2, ..., p and k = 2, 3, ..., n.

Hence, we get the list of (np + n + 2) subgroups.

On the basis of above list, we state following theorem which is very useful for structure of prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$.

Theorem 3. Let $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{n^n}$ be group whose subgroup list H_i where i = 1, 2, ..., np + n + 2, then we have

- (1) Index of H_1 in H_j where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., np + n + 2 is prime if and only if j = 2, 3, ..., p + 2.
- (2) Index of H_i where i = 2, 3, ..., p + 1 in H_i is prime where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., np + n + 2 if and only if j = p + 3.
- (3) Index of H_{kp+1+k} where k = 1, 2, ..., n in H_j where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., np + n + 2 is prime if and only if j = kp + 2 + k, kp + 3 + k, ..., (k + 1)p + k + 2.
- (4) Index of H_{ip+2+i} where i = 1, 2, ..., n 1 in H_j where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., np + n + 2 is prime if and only if j = (i + 1)p+i+3.
- (5) Index of $H_{i+(k-1)p+k+1}$ where i = 2, 3, ..., p-1 and k = 2, 3, ..., n in H_j where j = 1, 2, 3, ..., np + n + 2 is prime if and only if j = kp + k + 2.

Proof.

- (1) Here, $|H_1|=1$, then H_1 has index p in H_j if and only $|H_j|=p$ and $H_1 \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j|=p$ and $H_1 \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = 2, 3, ..., p + 2.
- (2) As $|H_i| = p$ where i = 2, 3, ..., p + 1, then H_i has index p in H_i if and only $|H_i| = p^2$ and $H_i \subset H_i$. So, $|H_i| = p^2$ and $H_i \subset H_i$ is only possible if and only if j = p + 3.
- (3) Here, $|H_{kp+1+k}| = p^{k+1}$, then H_i has index p in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^{i+2}$ and $H_{kp+1+k} \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^{i+2}$ and $H_{kp+1+k} \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = kp + 2 + k, kp + 3 + k,..., (k+1)p + k + 2.

- (4) Here, $|H_{ip+2+i}| = p^{i+1}$ where i = 1, 2, ..., n-1, then H_{ip+2+i} has index p in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^{i+2}$ and
- (1) Here, $|H_{ip+2+i} \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^{i+2}$ and $H_{ip+2+i} \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = (i+1)p + i + 3. (5) Here, $|H_{i+(k-1)p+k+1}| = p^k$ where i = 2, 3, ..., p 1 and k = 2, 3, ..., n, then $H_{i+(k-1)p+k+1}$ has index p in H_j if and only $|H_j| = p^{k+1}$ and $H_{i+(k-1)p+k+1} \subset H_j$. So, $|H_j| = p^{k+1}$ and $H_{i+(k-1)p+k+1} \subset H_j$ is only possible if and only if j = kp+ k + 2.

On the basis of above theorem, prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{n^n}$ is given below.



Figure 3. Prime index graph of group $\mathbb{Z}_{n} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n}$

This graph is known as p-layer ladder graph of size n + 1 which is denoted by $L_{n+1,p}$ with two vertices H_1 , H_{np+n+2} having degree p + 1; 2n - 2 vertices H_{p+2} , H_{p+3} , H_{2p+3} , H_{2p+4} , ..., $H_{(n-1)p+n}$, $H_{(n-1)p+n+1}$ have degree p + 2 and remaining vertices are of degree two. So, total number of edges is 2pn + n + 1.

5. Graceful labeling

Theorem 4. The path graph P_n is graceful for all $n \ge 1$.

Proof. Clearly, the number of edges in this graph is n-1. Now, we define mapping $f: V(P_n) \to \{0, 1, 2, ..., n-1\}$ where $V(P_n) = \{v_0, v_1, ..., v_n\}$ such as

$$f(v) = \begin{cases} \frac{i}{2} & \text{if } v = v_i \text{ where } i \text{ is even} \\ n - \frac{i-1}{2} & \text{if } v = v_i \text{ where } i \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Therefore, we get vertex labeled in strictly increasing manners as $f(v_0) < f(v_2) < f(v_4) < ... < f(v_{(2\times |4|)}) < ... <$ $f(v_{(2\times \lceil \frac{n-1}{2}\rceil+1)}) < f(v_{(2\times \lceil \frac{n-1}{2}\rceil-1)}) < \dots < f(v_3) < f(v_1).$

Now, we calculate f^* for each edge of the graph P_n . $f^*(e) = n - i$ where $e = v_i v_{i+1}$ and i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n - 1. Clearly, the induced edge labels are all distinct positive integers from $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$. Hence, the theorem.

Corollary 1. Prime index graph of finite cyclic *p*-group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} always has graceful labeling.

Theorem 5. The *p*-layer ladder graph $L_{n+1,p}$ is graceful for all $n \ge 1$.

Proof. Clearly, the number of edges in this graph is n-1. Now, we define mapping $f: V(L_{n+1,p}) \to \{0, 1, 2, ..., 2pn\}$ +n+1 where $V(L_{n+1,p}) = \{v_{11}, v_{12}, ..., v_{1(n+1)}, v_{21}, v_{22}, ..., v_{2(n+1)}, v_{31}, v_{32}, ..., v_{3(p-1)}, ..., v_{(n+2)1}, v_{(n+2)2}, ..., v_{(n+2)(p-1)}\}$ such as Case 1: n is odd

$$f(v_{ij}) = \begin{cases} 2pn + n + 1 & \text{if } v = v_{11} \\ 2pn + n - 1 - 3\frac{(j-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{1j} \text{ where } j = 3, 5, \dots, n \\ 3\frac{(j-2)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{1j} \text{ where } j = 2, 4, \dots, n + 1 \\ 1 + 3\frac{(j-1)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = 1, 3, \dots, n \\ 2pn + n - 2 - 3\frac{(j-2)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = 2, 4, \dots, n - 1 \\ 2pn + n - 4 - 3\frac{(n-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = n + 1 \\ 2nj - \frac{(i-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{ij} \text{ where } j = 1, \dots, p - 1 \text{ and } i = 3, 5, \dots, n + 2 \\ 2pn + n - 2nj + \frac{(i-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{ij} \text{ where } j = 1, \dots, p - 1 \text{ and } i = 4, 6, \dots, n + 1 \end{cases}$$

On the basis of this vertex labeling, we have following observations.

- (1) Vertex label of vertices v_{12} , v_{21} , v_{14} , v_{23} , ..., $v_{1(n+1)}$, v_{2n} are strictly increasing manners from vertex label 0 to $\frac{3n-1}{2}$.
- (2) Vertex label of vertices $v_{(n+2)(1)}$, $v_{(n)(1)}$, ..., v_{51} , v_{31} , $v_{4(p-1)}$, $v_{6(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{(n+1)(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{(n+2)(p-1)}$, $v_{(n)(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{3(p-1)}$, v_{41} , v_{61} , ..., $v_{(n+1)(1)}$ are strictly increasing manners from vertex label $\frac{3n+1}{2}$ to $2pn \frac{n+1}{2}$.
- (3) Vertex label of vertices $v_{2(n+1)}$, $v_{2(n-1)}$, v_{1n} , ..., v_{24} , v_{15} , v_{22} , v_{13} , v_{11} are in strictly increasing manner from $2pn \frac{n-1}{2}$ to 2pn + n + 1.

Therefore, we get edge labels as follow.

- (1) $v_{(n+3-j)(i)}$ with vertex $v_{(2)(n+1-j)}$ and $v_{(1)(n+2-j)}$ where i = 1, 2, ..., p 1, j = 1, 2, ..., n provides edge labeling 1 to 2np 2n.
- (2) Vertex v_{2n} with vertex $v_{(2)(n+1)}$ provides edge labeling as 2np 2n + 1 and vertex $v_{(1)(n+1)}$ to $v_{(2)(n+1)}$ provides edge labeling as 2np 2n + 2.
- (3) Vertex $v_{(1)(n+2-j)}$ with vertex $v_{1(n+1-j)}$ and vertex $v_{1(n+1-j)}$ with vertex $v_{2(n+1-j)}$ and vertex $v_{2(n+1-j)}$ with vertex $v_{2(n+j)}$ where j = 1, 2, ..., n-1 provides edges from 2np 2n + 3 to 2np + n 1.
- (4) v_{12} with v_{11} and v_{11} with v_{21} provides edge labeling as 2np + n to 2np + n + 1.



Figure 4. Graceful labeling of graph $L_{8,3}$

Case 2: *n* is even

$$f(v_{ij}) = \begin{cases} 2pn + n + 1 & \text{if } v = v_{11} \\ 2pn + n - 1 - 3\frac{(j-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{1j} \text{ where } j = 3, 5, \dots, n+1 \\ 3\frac{(j-2)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{1j} \text{ where } j = 2, 4, \dots, n \\ 1 + 3\frac{(j-1)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = 1, 3, \dots, n-1 \\ 2pn + n - 2 - 3\frac{(j-2)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = 2, 4, \dots, n \\ \frac{3n}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{2j} \text{ where } j = n+1 \\ 2nj - \frac{(i-3)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{ij} \text{ where } j = 1, \dots, p-1 \text{ and } i = 3, 5, \dots, n+1 \\ 2pn + n + 1 - 2nj + \frac{(i-4)}{2} & \text{if } v = v_{ij} \text{ where } j = 1, \dots, p-1 \text{ and } i = 4, 6, \dots, n+2 \end{cases}$$

On the basis of this vertex labeling, we have following observations.

- (1) Vertex label of vertices v_{12} , v_{21} , v_{14} , v_{23} , ..., v_{1n} , $v_{2(n-1)}$, $v_{2(n+1)}$ are strictly increasing manners from vertex label 0 to 3n
- $\frac{1}{2}$ (2) Vertex label of vertices $v_{(n+1)(1)}$, $v_{(n-1)(1)}$, ..., v_{51} , v_{31} , $v_{4(p-1)}$, $v_{6(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{(n+2)(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{(n+1)(p-1)}$, $v_{(n-1)(p-1)}$, ..., $v_{3(p-1)}$, v_{41} , v_{61} , ..., $v_{(n+2)(1)}$ are strictly increasing manners from vertex label $\frac{3n}{2} + 1$ to $2pn - \frac{n}{2}$.
- (3) Vertex label of vertices $v_{2(n)}$, $v_{1(n+1)}$, $v_{2(n-2)}$, ..., v_{22} , v_{13} , v_{11} are in strictly increasing manner from $2pn \frac{n-2}{2}$ to 2pn + n + 1.

Therefore, we get edge labels as follow.

- (1) $v_{(n+3-j)(i)}$ with vertex $v_{(2)(n+1-j)}$ and $v_{(1)(n+2-j)}$ where i = 1, 2, ..., p 1, j = 1, 2, ..., n provides edge labeling 1 to 2np 2n.
- (2) Vertex v_{2n} with vertex $v_{(2)(n+1)}$ provides edge labeling as 2np 2n + 1 and vertex $v_{(1)(n+1)}$ to $v_{(2)(n+1)}$ provides edge labeling as 2np 2n + 2.
- (3) Vertex $v_{(1)(n+2-j)}$ with vertex $v_{1(n+1-j)}$ and vertex $v_{1(n+1-j)}$ with vertex $v_{2(n+1-j)}$ and vertex $v_{2(n+1-j)}$ with vertex $v_{2(n+j)}$ where j = 1, 2, ..., n-1 provides edges from 2np 2n + 3 to 2np + n 1.
- (4) v_{12} with v_{11} and v_{11} with v_{21} provides edge labeling as 2np + n to 2np + n + 1.



Figure 5. Graceful labeling of graph $L_{7,3}$

Corollary 2. Prime index graph of finite abelian *p*-group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$ always has graceful labeling. **Corollary 3.** Prime index graph of finite cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ always has graceful labeling. *Proof.* If take p = 1, then graph $L_{n+1,1}$ is prime index graph of finite cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ which is always graceful.

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6. Conclusion

In this article, we have discovered gracefulness of prime index graph of finite cyclic *p*-group \mathbb{Z}_{p^n} , a finite abelian group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ and a finite abelian *p*-group $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^n}$.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no competing of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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